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THE AMERICAN COLLEGE FOR GERMANY¹

It seems so natural and so delightful to listen on such festival days of college joy and of college pride to the voices of men

¹Address at the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of Lafayette College.

whose memories are intertwined with the noble traditions of the celebrating college. Those who passed the happy days of inner growth from the immaturity of school work to the maturity of life work on the lovely campus of Lafayette are the welcome speakers, indeed, at this symposium on college ideals, and their words, filled with gratitude, transform this huge assembly into a mighty family circle. But harsh and disturbing seems in such hours of intimacy the word of an outsider who never before enjoyed the charm and the inspiration of this place. If you are yet generous enough to invite the stranger's intrusion into your assembly of alumni; yes, if you kindly welcome the messenger of the Harvard faculty, your motive, it seems, can be only one: on such a day of historic retrospection Lafayette College desires to acknowledge the unity of the country's growth and academic development, desires to remember, venerable to-day herself, those places of learning which were venerable when she began her successful career, and therefore looks back in friendly fellowship to the oldest university of the land. Simple arithmetic leads us quickly back to those ancient days. It was seventy-five years ago that Lafayette College was born; if we double the figure, exactly 150 years ago, in 1757, the gallant Frenchman was born for whom this college was named; and if we double that figure, exactly 300 years ago, in 1607, was born the pious Englishman who founded the first American college, John Harvard. What a glorious national development in the life-